



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

come addition, and might have called the author's attention to the many repetitions.

But, notwithstanding slips, misprints, repetitions and even exaggerations, the book is one of great usefulness. The specialist can point out many infelicities of translation and many unjustifiable conclusions. And yet the impression made by the work will be in general correct. No other book shows so well how rich and varied Babylonian culture was. The reader needs only to bear in mind that it is often wrong in details. The blemishes are of a kind easy to remove by a careful revision, and this revision should be made before the work is reprinted.

A History of the Jewish People during the Babylonian, Persian and Greek Periods. By CHARLES FOSTER KENT, Ph.D., Professor of Biblical Literature and History, Brown University. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1899. Pp. xx, 380.)

THIS volume forms the continuation of the *History of the Hebrew People* by the same author, the second volume of which was noticed in this REVIEW in 1897 (II. 708 f.). It covers somewhat more than four centuries, from the fall of the kingdom of Judah in 586 B.C. to the restoration of sacrifice in the temple by Judas Maccabaeus in 165 B.C. A fourth volume (by Professor James S. Riggs), on the Maccabean and Roman Period, is to complete the work.

As in the preceding volumes, the author aims to present in popular form the results of modern investigation. The task is here more difficult; because, in consequence partly of the nature of the sources, partly of the fact that attention has only lately been centered on these problems, there is wide divergence of opinion among scholars, especially about the history and chronology of the Persian period.

With most recent critics Professor Kent shows that only a small part of the population of Judah was carried away to Babylonia in the two deportations of 597 and 586 B.C., and holds that there was no general return of the exiles under Cyrus. The Jews of Palestine in the first century of Persian rule were the descendants of those whom the Babylonians had left in the land; they had rebuilt the Temple in 520-516 with high hopes, but with the failure of these hopes they lost heart and faith—"it is in vain to serve the Lord"—and this state of feeling reacted most seriously on their religion.

The first important change in this situation was made by the coming of Nehemiah from Susa in 445. He restored the walls of Jerusalem and instituted some needed reforms; but on a second visit in 432 (not 532, as printed) he found that the people had gone back to their old ways.

Ezra, with a numerous company of Babylonian Jews, came to Jerusalem, not thirteen years *before* Nehemiah (till recently the all but universal opinion), but *after* him, probably in 397 (seventh year of Artaxerxes *Mnemon*; p. 201), bringing with him a new law-book (the Priests' Code), which, with the co-operation of Nehemiah, he succeeded in putting in force.

Professor Kent does not remark the difficulties in which this combination involves him. If Nehemiah was active in Jerusalem in 397, we have to suppose either that he had remained there since 432—in which case the state of things Ezra found is inexplicable—or that, although over seventy years of age, he made for the third time the long journey to Palestine, a hypothesis quite without support and intrinsically improbable.

The rival temple at Shechem was built soon after 397, as a consequence of the adoption of the Priestly Law by the Jewish community (but note the uncertainty about the dates on p. 220 f.), and its first chief priest was the priest Manasseh, whom Nehemiah had expelled from Jerusalem. We should expect, under these circumstances, that the priesthood at Shechem would plant themselves on the old law and custom, in opposition to Ezra's innovations; but Professor Kent, with many others, supposes that they made all haste to adopt the new model themselves, and he explains this, after Professor Cheyne, by attributing to Manasseh a zeal for reform like that of Ezra himself—an explanation which leaves the difficulty precisely where it was. In this, as in some other points, the author seems to have adopted the newest opinions without a sufficiently independent testing.

In others, again, as for example in the chronology of the campaigns of Artaxerxes Ochus, he does not appear to have taken note of the results of recent investigations, such as those of Judeich; and it is evident that he has seldom consulted the sources for himself. On p. 283, *e. g.*, we are referred for the history of Antiochus Epiphanes to Polybius xxvi. and Diodorus xix.; observe also the confusion about Bagoas and Bagoses in Josephus and Diodorus on p. 230.

I regret to say that the same pervasive inaccuracy which marred the second volume is even more conspicuous in this. Some of the slips are doubtless to be set down to negligent proof-reading, as when Nehemiah's second visit to Jerusalem is twice put in 532 B. C. (pp. 187, 192); or the reign of Artaxerxes Mnemon given as 404–458, or the date of Antiochus Epiphanes' second Egyptian campaign as 198. The conquest of Babylon is repeatedly put down in 539 (in the chronological table, 538); the conquest of Media, 549. It would be easy to fill a page or two of the REVIEW with a catalogue of material errors. Some of the most remarkable of these are in matters of simple Biblical knowledge, as, for example, the statement that to Jewish priests, from the moment of their consecration, "the tasting of wine, shaving their head or beard, or the doing any act which would render them ceremonially unclean, was absolutely forbidden" (p. 244), or that, under the priestly law, laymen were "deprived the privilege of personally participating even in private sacrifices" (p. 249). Memphis is said to be "not far distant from the borders of Judah" (p. 29). Ctesias twice appears as "the Persian historian" (pp. 14, 74), once in company with "the Halicarnassan historian" Herodotus, from which the unlearned might think that the author took Ctesias for a Persian. These are examples taken at random from a great number and variety. Precisely because this history is intended for

readers who cannot be expected to correct such mistakes by their own knowledge, this negligence in matters of detail seriously impairs the usefulness of the book.

G. F. MOORE.

A History of Egypt under the Ptolemaic Dynasty. By J. B. MAHAFFY. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1899. Pp. xiii, 261.)

A History of Egypt under Roman Rule. By J. GRAFTON MILNE, M.A. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1898. Pp. xiii, 262.)

THESE two works form Volumes IV. and V. of Professor Petrie's "collaborated" *History of Egypt*. He himself has written Volumes I. and II. and will, it is hoped, shortly publish Volume III., covering Dynasties XIX.—XXX. Volume VI., dealing with Arabic Egypt, has been assigned to Stanley Lane-Poole. The plan of the series contemplates a student's history, no attempt being made to give a well-rounded and entertaining narrative of the various elements entering into the wonderfully full life of Egypt. The dynastic arrangement is followed and the original materials are either presented in full or in abstract, or are so amply referred to that the student will have little difficulty in finding them.

The plan has been faithfully carried out in the volumes before us, which have fallen into hands admirably fitted for their tasks. Few except special students of the field are aware how our knowledge of Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt has been recently enriched and corrected by the discovery, publication and investigation of papyri dating from these periods. Some idea of the amount of work done can be gained by glancing over the voluminous report of books and articles dealing with papyrus literature published within the last five years, made by Viereck in a recent number of Bursian's *Zeitschrift*. The results of these investigations have been to correct chronological errors and clear up doubtful chronological points, to enlarge and rectify estimates of rulers and policies, to throw a veritable flood of light on general, social, religious, economic and political conditions, and to make possible the writing of new chapters of Egyptian history.

These two volumes gather up in admirably workmanlike fashion the tools and the results of this advanced knowledge. Both writers are specialists in their respective fields. Professor Mahaffy has already published (in 1895) a larger work on *The Empire of the Ptolemies*, some parts of which he has incorporated into the present volume. He stands among the foremost workers in the publication and investigation of Graeco-Egyptian papyri.

It must be said that these two chapters of Egyptian history do not have the attraction and importance attaching to the earlier periods. This is certainly the case in respect to Roman Egypt, which can be at the best only the history of a province, even if an important province, of the Roman Empire. Ptolemaic Egypt, also, was not the scene or the